Numb. 891

The Daily Gazetteer.

FRIDAY, MAY 12. 1738.

No. 899.

The History of False Patriotism *in the* Roman *Commonwealth continued, and concluded.*

OBSERVED heretofore, that it was not Choice, but Neceſſity, which induced the *Romans* to aboliſh Monarchy. My next Remark is, that notwithſtanding the Contrivance of *Brutus*, and the Introduction of the *Greek* Polity, the Conſtitution ſuffered exceedingly thereby. While the Conteſt laſted with the *Tarquins*, the Senate and People united in Defence of the common Cauſe, and found no want of a King; as a Wound is not perceived while People are warm. But when the Times became more ſettled, this Evil was not only diſcerned, but very ſenſibly felt: The Senate were very jealous of their Authority, the People much diſſatisfy'd at their Severity, both Parties became more intractable, having now neither Mediator nor Governor. The Conſuls were always choſen out of the Nobility, and conſequently were attached to their Intereſt; whereas *Servius Tullius*, one of the *Roman* Kings, had been himſelf a Slave, and from thence retained a juſt Idea of the Grievances of the common People.

IN Conſequence of theſe mutual Jealouſies and Heart-burning, each Party caſt about to maintain its Claims, the Senate to Authority, the Commons to real and effective Liberty. When a War threaten'd the State, the Senate ſweeten'd the People with fair Words, and a Suſpenſion of harſh Laws; but when the War was over, the Laws took their Courſe; and for the poor Commons, who had fought their Battles, they were left to the Mercy of their Creditors. To Remedy this Miſchief, the People reſolved not to give in their Names at the next Muſter; and this threatening the common Safety, the Fathers new moulded the Conſtitution, and ſet up a Monarch for their own Purpoſe, under the Title of a Dictator: This had the Succeſs hoped for at the Beginning; but by Degrees their Miſeries enraged the People ſo far, that quitting the City, they drew themſelves into a Body, and declared their Reſolution, rather to leave their Country, than be Slaves in it. This Tranſaction induced a new Change in the Conſtitution; for before the Quarrel could be compromiſed, *Junius Brutus* demanded, that the People ſhould have Magiſtrates created to protect them; which was accordingly granted; and they were ſtiled *Tribunes*, reſembling the *Spartan Ephori*.

HAPPY had it been for the *Roman* State if Matters had reſted here; but this was ſo far from being the Caſe, that the People having once experienced their Strength, and being now encouraged by their own Magiſtrates, were never ſatisfy'd with their Condition. The firſt Thing they demanded was, that Tribunes ſhould no more be choſen by the Centuries; but that the People, in this Election, ſhould Vote by Tribes; whence it came to paſs, that the Tribunes were not elected out of the better Sort, but from amongſt the meaneſt of the People. At firſt they ſate without the Senate; but ſuddenly after they would ſit within it. Next they began to cenſure Proceedings in that venerable Aſſembly, to cite its Members before the People, where they were ſure to have them condemned. This was at laſt carried to ſuch a Height, that *Fabius* could not help putting them in Mind, *That they were created Tribunes of the People, not Enemies to the Senate.* The *Gracchi* put the laſt Hand to the Miſchief, and as they were Men of equal Courage and Abilities, inflamed the People with an unquenchable Deſire for new moulding the Government into a downright Democracy. It is true, that *Tiberius*, the elder Brother, was firſt ſlain in purſuit of this Deſign; but not till he had carried it in ſome Meaſure into Execution. His Brother *Cajus* proſecuted the ſame Scheme with like, or rather with better Succeſs, for he was a Man of ſo quick a Genius, that he found a Way to give the laſt Blow to the Senatorian Authority, by his own Example ſolely. For whereas in publick Pleadings, the Orators were wont to turn themſelves towards the Senate Houſe, he, on the contrary, turned his Face towards the Forum, which by Degrees became the Cuſtom of the reſt of the Orators, whereby the Majeſty of the State was declared to reſide in the People.

THESE are not Facts ſtrained or perverted, or Inferences which will not bear the Teſt of Inſpection or Argument; whoever either reads *Livy* or *Florus*, will find that we have only copied what the wiſeſt of the *Romans* have ſaid of themſelves. The firſt of theſe Authors tells us, that when there were no foreign Wars, the Fathers found tribunitian Conflicts at Home, which were far more terrible. As to *Florus*, he ſays roundly, that the Tribunes occaſion'd all the Tumults and Seditions which ſo terribly ſhook the *Roman* State, under colour of protecting the People; but, in Truth, with Intent to ſeize the Sovereign Power. *Tully* alſo tells us, that the Tribunes carried their Power to an exceſſive Height, and that one of them, *Curiatius* by Name, a Man of very mean Condition, preſumed to throw *Brutus* and *P. Scipio* into Priſon. We may therefore be certain, that tho' this Office was created not without Reaſon, yet thoſe who were from time to time veſted with it, under colourable Pretences, and uſed the great Authority it gave them, to very unreaſonable Ends.

EVERY one knows, that in the Conſtitution between *Sylla* and *Marius*, the Conſequence of which was the Deſtruction of the *Roman* State; the Point firſt in diſpute was, whether the People or the Senate ſhould Rule. *Sylla* put himſelf at the Head of the Nobility; *Marius* fought for, as he derived his Power from the People. When *Sylla* had triumphed over his Enemies, and had it in his Choice to eſtabliſh what Government he pleaſed; he, by Law, curtailed the tribunitial Authority, taking from theſe popular Magiſtrates the Power of Injuring, tho' at the ſame time he left them that of Protecting; or, in other Words, from being the Enemies of the Nobility, he brought them to be contented with being Friends to the People. *Pompey* Reſcinded this Law; and that he might oblige the Commons, reſtored the Tribunes to their ancient Authority. But his Deſign ſucceeded very indifferently; for as he ſtill addicted himſelf to the Nobles, the People grew jealous of him; and when Occaſion offered, guided by their Tribunes, they declared for his Competitor *Cæſar*; in whom *Sylla* ſaid rightly, he ſaw many *Marius's*, ſince it was ſolely by his addicting himſelf to Popularity, the latter became Maſter of the State; and as the Caſe hath often, and perhaps always happened, laid the Foundations of a Monarchy, while thoſe who fought for him expected a *Democracy*. What *Cæſar* would have done, is indeed dubious; but it is well known what his Succeſſor did: For no ſooner was *Auguſtus* free from Competitors, than he aſſumed the tribunitian Power, which thence forwards belonged to the Emperors. Thus a Power created for the Preſervation of Liberty, became an Engine of Oppreſſion; and the Protector of the People againſt the Nobles, became the Maſter of both.

THO' it be not denied that *Marius*, *Julius Cæſar*, *Antony*, and *Octavius*, had Deſigns againſt the Liberties of *Rome*; yet many think that the former Chiefs of the popular Party, had really the Intereſt of their Country at Heart, and nothing elſe. Far be it from me to alledge, that the Chiefs of the Nobility were always in the Right, and thoſe of the Commons always in the Wrong. I am apt to think both were too often ſo, and that while they aimed at Aggrandizing themſelves and their Families, they pretended to be zealous only in the Cauſe of the State. Yet this is certain, that amongſt the Nobility there frequently appeared true Patriots; Men not only of great Abilities in War and Peace, but alſo of diſintereſted Tempers, Lovers of their Country, and of that honourable Glory reſulting from the Performance of great Actions upon honeſt Motives. But theſe Chiefs did neither eſcape the Envy, the Cenſure, or the Perſecution of the People: The want of a ſervile Compliance with their Deſires, which were frequently not for their own Good, afforded a Pretence for the Suſpicion of Ambition; and this Suſpicion once faſtened, was hardly ever to be wiped off; whence it came to paſs, that tho' the acting the Part of a falſe Patriot might be dangerous, behaving like a true one was infinitely more ſo. Thus many of the Chiefs of the Nobility, tho' they violently oppoſed the People, eſcaped better than *Scipio*, who did them the greateſt Services, and whoſe Moderation was equal to his Valour and his Wiſdom, tho' in theſe he was ſuperior to all the *Romans* of his Time.

IT would not be a very difficult Task to carry the Hiſtory of *falſe Patriotiſm* lower, and to ſhew, that the far greater Part of the Conſpiracies, Inſurrections, and Rebellions, which were ſet on foot againſt the *Roman* Emperors, were the Effects of private Malice, or of private Intereſt; tho' they were generally colour'd with the ſpecious Pretext of reſtoring Liberty, and giving Freedom to the *Roman* People. But this would be ſpinning out Things to an unreaſonable Length; a Remark on this Subject is ſufficient. A multitude of Inſtances would be neceſſary to make it clear to an unletter'd Reader; the very mention of it to thoſe who are ſkill'd in the *Roman* Hiſtory, will be ſufficient to eſtabliſh its Truth.

THE *Roman* Hiſtory then, in the Light I have placed it, ſufficiently diſplays the Merit of *true Patriots*, and the Danger of *falſe Ones*: It alſo affords us the Means of judging when thoſe, who aſſume to themſelves the Name of *Patriots*, are truly ſuch, and when not: For we have nothing to do, but to compare the Character and Conduct of ſuch a Perſon, with that of *Brutus* and *Scipio*, in order to convince ourſelves of his meriting, or not meriting that glorious Title. We ſee, that in general all the true Patriots among the *Romans* were for ſupporting the Conſtitution as it ſtood; for rendering diſintereſted Service to the Publick, and for ſpeaking to the People plainly and candidly, not artfully, and with a View of moving their Paſſions. Laſtly, we perceive that *true Patriots* ſeldom boaſted of their Love and Affection to their Country, but left it to their Countrymen to diſcover this, rather from their Actions than their Words. On the other Side, it is evident that the *falſe Patriots* among the *Romans* were everlaſtingly changing, altering, and new moulding the Conſtitution, under Colour either of ſupporting the Nobility, or of benefiting the Commons: They ſpent their Time moſtly in Briguing for Offices, ſuch eſpecially as might inveſt them with Power, or enable them to heap Wealth; they were always Complimenting and Cajoling the common People, ever ſpeaking to their Paſſions, always puſhing them upon new and violent Demands. Finally, they placed all their Merit in their Pretenſions to Patriotiſm; and tho' their Practices ſhewed them to be no way negligent of their private Concerns, yet did they conſtantly profeſs they were ready to ſacrifice all Things for the Service of the Publick. If theſe were the Marks of *true* and *falſe Patriots* in *Rome*, they ſtill remain the Characteriſticks of the ſame ſort of People in every State, and therefore we have nothing to do but to apply them.

R. COURTEVILLE.

HOME PORTS.

Deal, *May* 10. Wind S. W. The two Ships for Guiney ſailed laſt Night. Remain the Dragon Man of War; the Gibraltar, Michell, for Leghorn; the Fanny, Newton, for Barbadoes; the Cathern, Phillips, for Philadelphia; the Suſannah, Mangles, for Lisbon; the Douro, Landifield, for Oporto; the Duke, Conway, for Liverpool; the Hopewell, Harvey, for Plymouth. Arrived the Lilly, Townſhend, from Oporto; the Gaylard, Purnell, from Cadiz; the Greenland, Roſe, from St. Lucar. Juſt arrived the Auguſtus Cæſar, Hampton, from Leghorn.

LONDON.

Yeſterday Morning died at his Houſe in St. James's-ſtreet, Jacob Barlow, Eſq; a Gentleman poſſeſſed of 200 l. per Ann. in the County of Oxford.

Lord Sidney Beauclerc, Member of Parliament for New Windſor, is appointed Maſter of the Harriers and Fox Hounds, in the room of the Earl of Carliſle, deceaſed.

Yeſterday Morning a Match was run from Hyde Park Corner to Staines, between Mr. Griffen's Gray Mare, Single-Peeper, and Mr. Thomas's Cheſnut Gelding, Small Hopes, for 20 Guineas a Side, which was won by Single Peeper.

They write from Exeter, that on Friday Night laſt died the Rev. Mr. John Hugo, Rector of Bri[ſtol]

ford. The Living is valued at 140 l. per Annum, and falls to Mr. Hall, a young Gentleman now a Student at Oxford.

Yesterday General Oglethorpe set out from his House in Old Palace Yard, Westminster, for Portsmouth, in order to embark on board the Blandford Man of War for Georgia.

On Wednesday last the new-born Son of his Grace the Duke of Portland, was baptized by the Name of William Henry Cavendish; the Earl of Oxford stood Godfather, by Proxy, for Mynheer Bentick, one of the States of Holland, and Edward Harley, Esq; Knight of the Shire for Hereford, and the Countess of Portland Godmother, Proxy for his Grace's Aunt, who is in Holland.

Yesterday Thomas Revell, Esq; one of the Commissioners of the Victualling Office, and Member of Parliament for Dover, was married to Miss Egerton, Daughter to the late Colonel Egerton, and Niece to the Duke of Bridgewater.

Casualties, Christnings, and Burials last Week.

Drowned 3, one buried at St. Olave in Southwark, one at St. John at Wapping, and one at St. George Hanover Square. Excessive Drinking 2. Hanged himself (being Lunatick) buried at St. Giles without Cripplegate, one. Overlaid 2. Starved 1.

Christned	Males	146	Buried	Males	242
	Females	189		Females	238
	In all	335		In all	480

Increased in the Burials this Week 9.

Whereof have died,

Under 2 Years of Age	151	Forty and Fifty	47
Between 2 and 5	46	Fifty and Sixty	41
Five and Ten	15	Sixty and Seventy	25
Ten and Twenty	12	Seventy and Eighty	20
Twenty and Thirty	48	Eighty and Ninety	15
Thirty and Forty	60	Ninety and a Hundred	0

High-Water this Day at London Bridge.	Morning	Evening
	04 51	05 10

Bank Stock 140 1-8th, 140 1-half to 141. India 172, 172 1-half. South Sea 100, 100 1-half. Old Annuity 110 3-8ths to 1-half. New ditto 110 1-half to 3-4ths. Three per Cent. 105 1-4th. 7 per Cent. Loan 109 5-8ths. 5 per Cent. ditto 99 1-4th. Royal Assurance 109 1-4th. London Assurance 14 5-8ths. African 13 3-4ths. India Bonds 6 l. 9 s. Prem. South Sea ditto, 1 l. 8 s. Prem. Bank Circulation 2 l. 12 s. 6 d. to 11 s Premium. Salt Tallies 1 to 3 Preminm. English Copper 3 l. Welsh ditto 15 s. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 5 1-half per Cent. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 2 per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 121.

Westminster-Bridge Office, May 10, 1738.

NOTICE is hereby given, That the Commissioners appointed for building a Bridge from the City of Westminster, to the opposite Shore in the County of Surry, are to meet at their Office in Duke-street, Westminster, on Friday the 19th Instant, at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon.

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SERM. III. Three Distinct Persons the Object of our Worship, on Mat. xxviii. 19.

SERM. IV. The Relation, Order and Subordination of the Three Divine Persons to one another, on the same Text.

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